

Internal Approval Form no longer routinely required for non-competing continuations

Effective immediately, an Internal Approval Form (IAF) is no longer routinely required for non-competing progress reports. This change primarily effects multiple year awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). An IAF will still be required for significant changes (for instance, if there is a 25% or greater change in budget from the proposal that was originally routed, if a co-Investigator is added or if the Enrichment distribution changes).

This change is being made now for two reasons: 1) most NIH programs now use the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) which is submitted electronically through eRA Commons; 2) the annual on-line Financial Disclosure process is mature and reliable, making the investigator certification on the non-competing IAF unnecessary.

OSPA must change the access status in NIH Commons to allow Principal Investigators to submit the RPPR without an institutional certification. When the change is made, each Investigator will receive an automatic email notification from NIH Commons. Please note that the PI makes certain certifications when submitting and should not delegate submission authority. If a particular NIH program requires an institutional signature, Commons will not allow the PI to submit.

RPPR Resources:

- [NIH RPPR Instruction Guide](#)
- [RPPR Webpage \(hosted by NSF\)](#)

If you have questions or concerns, [please contact Deborah Davis, OSPA](#).